



# Community Connect

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Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

It has been a wonderful week having students back in school. We thank you for your continued support! Students have done an amazing job adjusting to masks, line up, walking on the right-hand side of the halls, and sanitizing hands! They are positive and all smiles to be back in school! As a faculty, we are extremely grateful to you, our families, for preparing your child(ren) so well for School Relaunch.

## Spirit Wear

We will be sending spirit wear home with the eldest in each family tomorrow. Please check your child's backpack for it. If you would prefer to pick it up yourself, please contact the office to make alternate arrangements. Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraiser. We will be doing another order before the end of September. Keep your eyes open!

## Parking

Please remember the front parking lot is reserved for those with visual, hearing or mobility restrictions and not for regular traffic. Not only is this lot full, but it is a safety concern when there are other vehicles driving in the loop.

## Bells

In order to accommodate staggered entry and recess times, we have revamped our bell schedule. You can see the bell schedules here: <https://meadowridge.fsd38.ab.ca/About.php>

We do foresee staggering our recesses more and will communicate those changes once they are implemented.

## COVID Questions?

We would like to thank families who have reached out to ask questions and to clarify any questions and concerns regarding COVID. Foothills School Division has created a site where staff and families can submit questions and have them answered by our Exec Team. Here is the site:

<https://engagefsd.com/school-relaunch-public-engagement>

One of the most confusing questions we get is, “**When can my child return to school?**” According to the FSD engagement site:

This is actually quite a complicated question! You can reference [this Alberta document](#) regarding student illness.

The answer is:

- For chills, painful swallowing, stuffy nose, headache, muscle aches, fatigue, gastro issues, loss of smell or taste, and pink eye, a student must remain home until their symptoms resolve. After they are feeling better they are welcome to return to school.
- For fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat – all Albertans are legally required to isolate for 10 days from the start of symptoms or until they resolve, whichever is **LONGER**. However, if a negative test is received, and the student has no known exposure, they can return to school as soon as they are feeling better. If no negative test is available, the minimum 10 day isolation remains in place.

To ensure our community remains healthy, please use these most current guidelines when assessing whether your child should come to school. Should they change, we will let you know.

## Mask Clarification

Students in Grade 4 to 9 may take their masks off during class when:

- They are sitting at the desk/tables, facing the front and working independently on learning.

OR

- They are physically distanced from other students in their class or outside.

OR

- They have partitions on their desk protecting them from droplets from other people.

OR

- They are participating in physical exercise in the gym or outside.

Students and staff are required to wear masks in common areas such as the River Valley, Look Out, Learning Commons and Meadows and when they are lining up outside to come into the school.

Thank you for your support having your children wear masks at school to protect others!

## A Note From The Music Room

Welcome back parents and students! I am looking forward to teaching your children again this year! The program will look a little different than last year. At the moment we are currently not allowed to sing or use wind instruments. However, we have many creative and innovative new ideas, including more strings and percussion units. An optional online version of band will continue at home for those students still wanting to continue playing their band instruments. More information on this will be available later in the month. **We are currently missing some of our inventory from last year and are asking that if you have not returned an instrument or book borrowed from last year that it is returned as soon as possible.** It is wonderful to be back to school with your children!

Mrs. Bolen

## Upcoming Dates

Thursday, Sept. 17 – School Council/Fundraising Society @ 6 pm

Thursday, Sept. 24th – Professional Learning Day: NO SCHOOL

Friday, Sept. 25th – Professional Learning Day: NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> – Orange Shirt Day. Wear orange!

Thursday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – International Music Day

Friday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Terry Fox Run

Monday, Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – World Teacher Day

Friday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> – Professional Learning Day: NO SCHOOL

Monday, Oct 12<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving: NO SCHOOL

Have a great weekend,

Rebecca Forchuk

Principal

Brad Skeet

Vice Principal